(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the project is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been signed on 4.2.1997 between National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board (APSEB) for the Simhadri Thermal Power Project (2×500 MW) to be set up in Andhra Pradesh. The final investment approval for this project has not yet been accorded by the Government of India. The first unit of project is expected to be commissioned in 56 months after the date of such approval and the second unit nine months thereafter. the PPA, inter alia, contains details about tariff fixation, arrangements for billing and payments and the security package, dispute resolving mechanism etc.

Additional Power Capacity during the Eighth Five Year Plan

*378. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target for creation of additional power capacity during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) what has been the actual erection of additional capacity;

(c) what are the reasons for the shortfall, if any; and

(d) how this position would be corrected during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The target fixed was 30537.7 MW.

(b) The likely capacity addition during the Eighth Plan period is 17660 MW

(c) The main reasons for shortfall have been paucity of resources rehabilitation & resettlements issues, law and order etc.

(d) Achievement of target for capacity addition in the Ninth Plan is proposed to be ensured through several measures including improved monitoring systems, priority to ongoing sanctioned schemes, streamlining and simplifying clearance procedures and reforms and restructuring of State Electricity Boards.

LPG agencies in Kumaun region of Uttar Pradesh

*379. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections with each agency in Ramnagar, Almora, Ranikhet, Haldwani and Nainital in Uttar Pradesh, alongwith the number of persons on the waiting list, as on the 31st January, 1997;

(b) by when the wait-listed persons in those towns are likely to be provided LPG connections; and

(c) what are the other places in hill districts of Kumaun Region in Uttar Pradesh where LPG facilities are available, and by when the remaining areas are likely to be provided with such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The details of number of LPG customers and number of persons on waiting list with each agency of Public Sector Oil Companies' distributorships as on 31.1.97